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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

4-1-1964

Justice (Vol. 46, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

GEB

Names Sanchez a Vice President Announces 6 Master Pacts Notes ILG Membership Stability Hails Dress Settlement Role

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JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XLVI, No. 7

Jersey City, N.J., April 1, 1964

Price 10 Cents

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

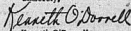
November 22, 1963

Dear Mr. Dubinsky:

Because of your special interest in H.R. 7193, we thought you might like to have one of the pens which the President used in signing it.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


Kenneth O'Donnell
Special Assistant to the President

Calendar No. 608

71st CONGRESS
1st Session

H. R. 7193

[Report No. 608]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

October 8 (1963), day, October 8), 1963

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency

November 22, 1963, day, October 22), 1963

By Mr. ROSENBERG, without amendment

AN ACT

for the striking of medals in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the first union health center in the United States by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 That, in commemoration of the founding in 1914 by the In-
- 4 ternational Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of the first
- 5 health center ever operated by a trade union in the United
- 6 States, thus creating a new conception of medical care for
- 7 the workers which has been followed by many other unions
- 8 and socially minded institutions, the Secretary of the Treas-
- 9 ury is authorized and directed to strike an appropriate silver

II

In the week following the death of President John F. Kennedy, ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky received a small package containing a short message from the White House with the fateful November 22 date and the pen with which President Kennedy, 2 days before his death, had signed what was to become the last Congressional bill to bear his signature—the bill authorizing a medal to mark the 50th anniversary of the ILGWU Union Health Center. The pen, letter and bill are treasured ILGWU mementoes. The anniversary will be celebrated June 6, 1964. President Lyndon B. Johnson is scheduled to attend.

LB TO PUSH PROGRAMS FOR NEEDS OF ELDERLY

Recent happenings on Capitol Hill and at the White House indicate that the Johnson administration and its supporters will mount a vigorous offensive to meet the needs of the elderly both through medicare and an attack on health frauds victimizing the elderly.

Two recent statements by the President indicate that he will take special pains to press for medicare and that he expects action from Congress on the main points embodied in the King-Anderson bill now pending before Congress.

In addition, Evelyn Dubrow, ILGWU legislative representative, has just learned that Joint Senate hearings are to be held later this month to examine health insurance plans for the elderly with special attention to be given to the claims which are made by some of the plans.

President Johnson put his administration's prestige behind medicare in strong statements last month to the Building Trades Legislative Conference and the United Auto Workers convention. Because the President's long experience has made him extremely aware of legislative possibilities, there is a strong feeling "on the Hill" that health care legislation may be in the offing for this Congressional session.

"We are going to pass a medical assistance bill for the aged no matter how many months it

takes," Johnson said cheering UAW delegates. At the Building Trades Legislative conference, the President declared: "We are not going to let the older folks fight high medical expenses in their late years all alone. We are going to help them. That is why we are going to pass a medical assistance bill—this year!"

This could mean that Wilbur Mills, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, is more amenable now to supporting some kind of legislation for hospital and nursing care beyond the Kerr-Mills bill which restricts assistance to paupers.

Mills has promised that he will hold executive sessions on King-Anderson, dealing with the testimony presented before the full committee both in November and in January. As Congress begins to stir, the ILGWU will continue to urge passage of medicare and will support the President in his statement that a law should be passed this session even if Congress has to stay in Washington all summer. The appalling number of health

frauds being perpetrated on the nation's elderly were startlingly brought into the open by recent Senate hearings in California and Washington.

Frauds Against Aged

A Senate subcommittee, chaired by Senator Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.), was shown, by the victims themselves, how aging citizens seeking medical assistance for their ailments were subject to quackery, thievery and a combination of devices intended to siphon them of what little they had. Many of the elderly witnesses lost life savings, investments, and pensions by believing they could be healed by unscrupulous practitioners fusing phony healing methods.

The hearing also brought out that many druggists, some worthless, others harmful, are being openly sold on the market.

The success of the hearings in uncovering health frauds against the elderly, have prompted other investigations into the problems faced by the aged in meeting their health needs.

Later this month, the Senate subcommittee on health and aging, chaired by Senator Paul MacNamara (D-Mich.) and Senator Williams will hold joint hearings on health insurance plans for the elderly with an eye to ascertaining whether these plans deliver all the services and assistance which they claim to provide. Williams subcommittee will also delve into mail order health insurance plans for the elderly to find out if they are operating properly.

N.Y. Health Center Staff Aids Mrs. FDR, JFK Funds

The staff of the ILGWU's Union Health Center—doctors as well as the non-professionals—completed the latest contributions to the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Fund drive too late for inclusion in the general accounting that was featured in the February 15 issue of Justice. The monies will also be used in behalf of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library.

They may have been late but they were not reluctant: "The contributions of the staff totaled \$903.83.

Billie, headed by Mississippi Senator James O. Eastland. Civil rights supporters noted that the Senate's Commerce and Labor committees had already held hearings on two key phases of the bill—public accommodations and fair employment practices.

With the initial house out of the way, the Senate gave itself an abbreviated 3-day Easter recess and scheduled the start of the long, grueling main bout for March 30.

The 16 days of preliminary debate, most of it devoted to wide-ranging discussions of the bill's provisions rather than how to still it before the Senate, gave a preview of the showdown battle still to come.

Call for Veto of N.Y. Bill Curbing Low-Cost Drugs

On March 30, the ILGWU called on New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller to veto the proposed legislation would restrict the issuance of pharmacy certificates to enterprises in which the proprietors and a certain percentage of his partners or corporation directors are licensed pharmacists.

In letter to Governor Rockefeller, Louis Rothenberg, director of the ILGWU's Welfare and Health Benefits Department, charged that the proposed law would stop independents, cooperatives and other non-profit institutions from expanding or starting new outlets for dispensing drugs at reasonable cost while preserving high-quality standards. The ILGWU operates a drug pharmacy at its Union Health Center in New York City.

Rothenberg further charged that the proposed legislation would "have a negative impact on

medical care for low and middle income groups," would stimulate absentee ownership and would "in no way improve, better, cheaper, more ethical or more tightly supervised drug services."

Rothenberg pointed out that the proposed bill would in no way improve the quality of drug service. In fact, he said, the bill, in some cases, would reduce the quality control over drug service. The effect of the proposed legislation, Rothenberg noted, "would only serve to legalize any new attempt to set up drug institutions through non-profit organizations interested in reduced drug prices."

ILG-Bobbie Brooks 'First'



Representatives of the ILGWU and Bobbie Brooks, Inc., in first session of recently formed labor relations committee. At head of table are Pres. David Dubinsky, David L. Calk, committee chairman, and Maurice Salzman, president of Bobbie Brooks, Inc. Meeting took place last month at Union's General Office.

WASHINGTON LETTER

Federal Reserve Role Seen Key to Recession Problems

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Few persons are aware of the vast power of the Federal Reserve System to effect change in the health of our economy. But Rep. Wright Patman (D-Tex.), who heads up a subcommittee on Domestic Finance of the House Banking and Currency Committee, is doing something about this.



He is holding hearings to focus the spotlight on our monetary policy and the all-important role of the Federal Reserve System. The FRS is headed by business-oriented bankers who are responsible to no government agency. Appearing before the subcommittee as witness, Nathaniel Goldfinger, director of research for the AFL-CIO, carefully presented organized labor's deep concern over developments taking place which are closely related to unemployment and employment.

"In 1964," he told the subcommittee, "America once again faces a potential threat from the Federal Reserve—monetary policy may be used to negate the demand-generating and job-creating impact of the tax cut."

Goldfinger's concern is that despite the fact that unemployment remains at a high level, the Federal Reserve insists on keeping interest rates—the price of money—at a high level.

The explanation of the money-managers is that there is some kind of danger of inflation resulting from the increased demand and, a balance of payments deficit. This is the same thinking, Goldfinger pointed out, that led to 3 major recessions since 1953 and could mean another age.

Monetary Policy Vital

"Monetary policy," Goldfinger declared, "is a powerful government tool, affecting incomes, sales and employment. Certainly in the world of the 1960s—with high unemployment, the spread of labor-displacing automation and the influx of millions of youngsters into the labor force—America cannot afford further experiments with growth-inhibiting, unemployment-generating policies."

Goldfinger stressed that our unemployment is "clear evidence of our past failures in economic policy" and noted that "the nation's monetary management is much too pervasive in its influence to be left in the hands of people whose training and experience are mainly in big business and banking and who are further insulated from the major currents of American life by the 'independence' of the Federal Reserve."

The time is at hand, the AFL-CIO official said, for the Federal Reserve to become fully a part of U.S. government and broadly representative of the population. He said the major guide to America's economic policy is the Employment Act of 1946 which commits the Government "to promote maximum production, employment and purchasing power."

The tight binds on the economy, largely imposed by the money managers of the Federal Reserve, "have been too painful to the millions who are unemployed and underemployed. The relatively poor record of our economic performance has raised doubts about the strength of the American economy," he said.

The unions added that the changes in structure and composition of the FRS "would go a long way toward updating and modernizing national economic policy-making in the second half of the 20th century."

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DAVID DEBINSKY, President
LOUIS STULBERG,
Gen'l Sec'y-Treas.
LEON STEIN, Editor
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Of Sewing Skills and Corner-Cutting, Giants and Gains...

Veteran reporter Harry Berloffs has been Dubinsky during a recess of the GEB meeting in Atlantic City and posed a number of questions about wages and labor leadership. Below is Mr. Berloffs' report as it appeared on Page 1 of the March 31 issue of *Women's Wear Daily*.

THE TROUBLES OF THE SEVENTH AVENUE couture are not so much the high cost of labor as the inability to hold on to skilled workers and mounting indirect labor costs, David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, said here Monday.

Replying to recent charges made by Seventh Avenue, the union president countered with a "they'll always blame it on Dubinsky when the quality is rough."

"We've encountered that excuse for 30 years, whether a producer has a \$2 labor cost or \$22," the union's chief spokesman said in an interview.

"What about the French couture? They are having financial problems without a union, yet they remain a potent factor in the world of fashion."

MR. DUBINSKY DENIED THAT ACTUAL TAKE-HOME WAGES of the industry's skilled craftsmen was sufficient cause for the American couture's high labor bill.

"Our name designing firms invest fortunes every season before the clothes come off the sewing machines for retail consumption."

"The weeks of preparation in making and discarding samples, modeling, revising and adjusting are an integral part of indirect labor that does not appear in the worker's pay envelope."

"There are no avenues today for bringing in skilled craftsmen . . . the workers in these high fashion places are still of the immigrant school and they are rapidly disappearing . . . ask your Norells and Zuckermans about their problems in obtaining skilled workers for \$250 dresses and coats."

"I don't know where Seventh Avenue fashion houses can cut corners, but there must be a way and it's not wages."

ASKED HOW HE IS COPING WITH THE INDUSTRY'S giants across the bargaining table, the union leader, who celebrated his 72d birthday last month, smiled.

"We are having some problems, but the progress is gradual and satisfactory. These firms with multi-plant operations across the country and doing apparel volume

in the many millions do not act like General Motors.

"They confront us with a chip on their shoulder, yet they want to be competitive . . . they think Dubinsky is interested only in getting workers' dues, but that seems furthest from the truth . . . the union's chief concern is with standards and wage structure."

"The giant firms have many low wage areas and we have been successful in uplifting these . . . the publicly-owned firms are proud of their volume, but they are also aware we can strike for better conditions."

ASKED IF THE UNION WOULD INVEST SOME of its funds with publicly-owned apparel firms, Mr. Dubinsky replied quickly, "Never!—that would mean conflict of interest. It would shut the door to our right to strike."

"No sir," he said, "Maybe Hoffa, but not Dubinsky."

Mr. Dubinsky added he looked for no problem in reaching an agreement in New York's coats and suit industry. Contracts expire May 31 and initial talks were held last week.

"We'll get a wage increase, a second week's paid vacation and fringe benefits," he stated, confidently.

GEB Elects Sanchez as 'Peep,' Charts Advances in Master Facts, Craft Hours, Added Vacation

The ILGWU General Executive Board on March 16 unanimously elected Alberto E. Sanchez as ILGWU vice president and member of the union's 23-man top body. He was nominated for the high union post by Pres. David

Dubinsky as he opened the week-long regular meeting of the GEB in Atlantic City. Vice Pres. Sanchez, 53, has been director of ILGWU organization for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico since 1964.

Highlight of the meeting was Pres. Dubinsky's report on the state of the ILGWU. Summarizing regional, market and product reports submitted by the vice presidents, he stressed the key role of new contract provisions on craft minimums and wage structures in lifting standards; the peace-entire role of the recently renewed New York metropolitan dress contract; the increase in the number of master agreements; the stability of ILGWU membership.

With all of the turnover the ILGWU must experience—because it is an extremely mobile membership and 75 to 80 percent of its members are working women, many of them mothers—the union's membership has had only a relatively slight variation in membership during the past 8 years, ranging between 450,000 and 448,000.

As of January 1, 1964 ILGWU membership was 439,890 indicating the small drop of 1,239 members from the 1963 total. Even so, 115,559 members were brought into the union in the 12-month period to help balance the exits from membership.

Dress Pact Report

The first session of the GEB meeting featured an extended report by Vice Pres. Charles B. Rosen, general manager of the Dress Joint Council, on the extended negotiations required in the renewal of the New York dress agreement. He traced the complex history of the effort by a ramp group of employers to disrupt the final settlement efforts by establishing a breakaway employer association aimed at challenging and ultimately lowering established union work and wage standards.

He pointed out the part played by strong union morale among members and staff which contributed to the final victory and stressed that the job that remained to be done now was to ensure full enforcement of the contract provisions.

Pres. Dubinsky noted that even though other affiliates may be first in establishing new gains in their contracts, when the New York dress or cloak markets win the provision in their agreements this puts it on the agenda for all affiliates.

This is true in 1958 when Pres. Dubinsky stepped into the dress industry negotiations and revealed demands to include use of the union label and severance pay. So, too, in the dress negotiations early this year, a second week of vacation was put on the ILGWU agenda.

At the end of the discussion of the dress pact, Vice Pres. Heron Mendelsohn, general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board, indicated that the dress settlement had already eased the burden of negotiating the new cloak pact, now under way. On his motion, the GEB expressed satisfaction with the dress settlement.

Master Agreements

In further analyzing recent negotiations, Pres. Dubinsky announced the recent signing of company-wide master agreements with 6 giant dress firms outside of New York City.

Featured in these pacts is a 13½ percent increase for piece workers to become effective in 3 steps. The first boost of 3 percent became effective March 3, 1964; the second 5 percent will go into effect at the start of May 1964 and the final 5½ percent on February 1, 1965.

The question of short contracts for out-of-New York dress firms has in the past come up in the major market contract negotiations. The new pacts have the immediate effect of bringing their wage structures and standards closer to those in the New York metropolitan dress market. By comparison with the market pact, the wage lift in the 6 master agreements is higher and faster. The first installment of the dress wage increase was 3.2 percent compared with 5 percent in the master pact. The dress increase for piece workers levels the 4.4 percent while the level for the master contract after the

I.L.G.W.U. Names a Puerto Rican as an Officer

Sanchez Is First to Become Vice President of Union

By DAMON STETSON

The International Ladies Garment Workers Union named its first Puerto Rican vice president yesterday. He is Alberto E. Sanchez, the union's 50-year-old director of organization in Puerto Rico. The appointment reflects the increasingly important role of Spanish-speaking members in the I.L.G.W.U. and also the union's growing activities in Puerto Rico. Mr. Sanchez will serve on the 23-member executive board.

He was nominated for Vice President by David Dubinsky, president of the union. The executive board, meeting in Atlantic City, unanimously approved the appointment.

Mr. Dubinsky returned recently from Puerto Rico, where he met with Mr. Sanchez and other union leaders to map plans for an expanded organizing and additional educational activities on the island. The union now says it has a membership of 115,000 there—more than the employed in his new post. He praised his record with the union and in the labor movement generally.

Later yesterday, following the



Alberto E. Sanchez

Director in Commonwealth Is Chosen by Dubinsky

The garment union, spawned amid sweatshop conditions at the turn of the century, was composed predominantly of workers of European Jewish origin in its early years. Later Italians became one of the major nationalities groups. Now Spanish-speaking workers and Negroes make up about 25 percent of the 450,000 members.

The events leading to the selection of Mr. Sanchez as vice president of the union began in 1956 when Mr. Dubinsky decided that the time was ripe for organizing in Puerto Rico. Seeking leaders, he went for help to the then Secretary of Labor in Puerto Rico, Fernando Sierra Berceida.

That official suggested Mr. Sanchez, one of the union's leaders in charge of labor-management education for the Commonwealth's Department of Labor.

Mr. Sanchez was born and received his early schooling in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, and lives in San Juan with his wife. He has worked in factories in Puerto Rico and the United States and has been identified with many segments of the labor movement.

He was a delegate to the Constitution. Assembly that established the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and has served as secretary-treasurer of the Puerto Rico Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

—From The New York Times, March 18.

third installment will be 13½ percent. In both cases the first installment on the wage rise was on March 3, 1964.

For the market and the master agreements accumulated wage adjustments take the form of an addition to individual weekly earnings according to settled prices. In both cases, by May of this year, the percentage added will be the same at 93 percent

and will be the same at 63 percent at the start of February 1965.

The master contracts for the out-of-market firms have now been made to contain for the first time a schedule of craft minimums similar to those in the New York market agreement as it applies to the Northeast Department.

Pres. Dubinsky also announced terms of a master agreement with

the huge Jonathan Logan firm. It is effective for 2 years starting March 2, 1964 and applies to all of the company's plants except those in the Texas area under Dress Joint Board jurisdiction and those covered by agreements with other associations.

The Logan pact extending higher terms even to plants in the South, also sets higher craft minimums and raises wages 7 percent. (Continued on Page 18)

Skirt, Sport Seeking 10% Rise for 15,000

Negotiations between Blouse, Skirt and Sportswear Workers' Local 23-25 and the National Skirt and Sportswear Association for a new collective agreement covering approximately 15,000 workers in 500 sportswear shops in the New York City metropolitan area began March 25 with the presentation of the union's demands by Vice Pres. Shelley Appleton, manager of the local, at a conference at the Hotel Astor.

The local's chief demands were for a 10 percent wage increase on total earnings, an increase in all minimums beginning with a minimum of \$1.50 an hour for floor workers, an increase in bonus pay for overtime work for piece workers from the present 85 cents an hour to \$1.25 an hour, an increase in the number of paid holidays from 6½ to 8 and an increase in the rate of holiday pay.

The local is also asking for the establishment of a pooled industry fund for vacation pay "to eliminate the uncertainty and confusion that now exists in holiday payments," and to give its members greater security.

Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, manager of Cutters' Local 10, presented the cutters' demands which call for a 10 percent wage increase, a second week of vacation pay, "to

be paid directly by the employers," and the establishment of a \$100 weekly minimum for cutters, markers and graders. The present minimum is \$81 for cutters and \$89 for markers and graders.

Also present at negotiations were Vice Pres. George Rubin, general manager of the Cloak Out-of-Town Department, Morris Kovler, manager of Coat, Suit, Skirt and Sportswear Pressers' Local 35; union attorney Emil Schlesinger; Jay Mazur, assistant manager of Local 23-25; and members of the local's staff and executive board.

Hikes in Minimums

Local 23-25 is asking that minimums for operators in the "low-end" line be raised from \$1.60 an hour to \$1.85, and that the minimum for pressers be raised from \$2.29 an hour to \$2.50.

Appleton made it clear to employers that the union would

not compromise on its demand for \$1.50 an hour for floor workers and indicated that it would seek a substantial increase in this minimum in the next agreement. The present Local 23-25 agreement, which expires May 31, covers approximately 11,000 sportswear workers in New York City and several thousand more in the surrounding area.

Appleton, in his presentation to the employers, urged the need for a program of modernization in the sportswear industry. He said that the backwardness of the industry by equipment and management techniques acted as a brake on earnings while keeping labor cost-per-garment high.

He maintained that modernization would increase earnings and lower costs, and he emphasized that the industry could not continue as a "19th century oasis" in the flooding technological advances of the 20th century.



Negotiating session over new collective agreement between N.Y. Local 23-25 and employers group. From left are: Jerry Grossman, Local 23-25 blouse dept. head, Jay Mazur, Local 23-25 ass't. mgr., Morris Kovler, Local 35 mgr., Vice Pres. George Rubin, general mgr. of COT Dept., Vice Pres. Shelley Appleton, Local 23-25 mgr., Emil Schlesinger, union attorney, Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, Local 10 mgr., Abe Dolgen, Local 10 ass't. mgr., and Murray Edelstein, COT ass't. gen. mgr.

10% Rise, 2nd Vacation Wk. In '105' Demands for 9,500

Nearly 5,000 members of New York Local 105, who jammed into the grand ballroom of Manhattan Center on March 19 to hear a report on negotiations by Manager Martin L. Cohen, gave their unanimous approval to the union's demands.

Acting on their manager's recommendation, they authorized the local's shop representatives "either to 'ratify or reject the terms of any new agreement."

The local's demands, presented at a conference with the employers at the Hotel Astor on March 17, include a 10 percent wage increase on total earnings, higher minimum wage rates, a second week of vacation pay, increase in the number of paid holidays from 6½ to 7, and an increase in the holiday pay rate.

The local is also asking for a pooled industry fund for holiday pay. Cohen told the employers that the union considered the establishment of a pooled fund necessary to give workers the guarantees intended when the holiday pay clause "was first written into the agreement. There are now too many delays in paying workers for holidays, and too many shenanigans," he said. "A pooled fund, which would send holiday pay checks directly

to the workers, would end this unfortunate situation." Local 105's demands, which were presented by Abe Dolgen, its assistant manager, in the absence of Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, the local's manager, called for a 10 percent wage increase, a higher minimum, and a second week of vacation pay to be paid directly by the employer.

Present with Cohen and Dolgen at the opening of negotiations were union attorneys Abraham Schlesinger, Local 105 Pres. John Wilkinson and members of the '105' negotiating committee.

Local 105, in its demands, asked that the week of July 4 be declared an industry-wide vacation, and that workers be paid for the week. He noted, however, that while the union regarded the second week of vacation pay as a "must," it considered the way in which this second week's to be handled "subject to negotiation." Negotiating sessions with the employers will be resumed immediately after the Easter and Passover holidays. An estimated

9,500 workers in 300 New York City shops, producing infants', children's and "teen-age" outerwear, novelty wear and sportswear, are covered by the Local 105 agreement.

'105' Stamp of Approval



Members of N.Y. Local 105 enthusiastically approve demands to be pressed in parleys for new collective agreement covering 9,500 workers. Event took place in Manhattan Center last month.

Dress Unionizing Adds 30 Jobs and Mfrs. Since Start of the Year

Sustained organizing activities have brought 30 dress jobs and manufacturers in New York City under contract with the union since the first of the year, Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, general manager of the Dress Joint Council, reported last week. Three contractors also have been unionized, he indicated.

Negotiations also are under way with 6 additional jobbers, and it is expected that they will soon come under union terms by joining one of the employers' associations.

Herb Gershon, manager of the New York Dress Joint Board organization department, said that strikes are currently in progress against 13 jobbers and manufacturers, but that the department's major effort is being directed against 3 of them—Cohen Bros., 1541 Seventh Avenue; Karen Joy, 1400 Broadway; and Karen Garment, 464 Seventh Avenue.

He is also known as Dial Fashions and Fair Lady. All of these firms were formerly union but resigned from their association before the new agreements were negotiated. Cohen Bros. and Karen Garment have

made unsuccessful efforts to break away from the union in the past.

Union Solidarity

Gershon said that Office and Distribution Employees' Local 99 and its manager, Douglas Levin, "have been extremely helpful in our organizing activities and in our strikes. It has been a wonderful example of union solidarity," he said.

The union plans to press its organizing activities all through the current season. "We have placed a higher priority on some of the non-union holdouts than on others, but we are going after all of them," he declared.

There were many fewer resignations from employers' associations, and efforts to break away from the union, during the recent negotiations than in past years. Zimmerman said that he hoped this reflected "a new respect for our union and for orderly process in the industry."

'142' Flower Renewal Sprouts Pay Boosts

Pay increases highlight the terms of a new 3-year agreement recently reached between the Artificial Flower Manufacturers Board of Trade and New York Neckwear Workers' Local 142, reports Manager Joseph Twinn.

The new pact calls for a 5 percent wage hike for both time and piece workers, a 5 percent boost in all craft minimums, an extra week's vacation paid to the workers on the basis of 2 percent of employer's payroll.

The renewal also provides for 6 guaranteed paid holidays, including the substitution of Columbus Day for Washington's Birthday, and a cost of living provision which will go into effect on January 1, 1966.

The terms of the new agreement were unanimously approved by local members at a stoppage meeting held March 12 in the Diplomat Hotel.

Second Arbitrator

Union negotiators and association representatives also named a second industry impartial arbitrator, while retaining the present

arbitrator, Jules Manson, regional director of the New York State Mediation Service. They selected Samuel Orr, ex-New York state assemblyman and former deputy controller of New York City.

Manager Twinn announces that talks with independent artificial flower shops are progressing smoothly and other contract signings are expected to follow shortly.

2 Busloads from Local 32 Go to Washington, Apr. 10

Two busloads of members of New York Corset and Brassiere Workers' Local 32 will go to Washington, D.C., the weekend of April 10 to pay homage to the late President Kennedy, manager Max Goldenberg has announced.

S. Jersey Dress Nets Raises, Craft Nets

Honor ILG Fire Warden Program



Pres. David Dubinsky accepts Certificate of Appreciation bestowed by the New York City Fire Department in recognition of union's cooperation in promoting fire prevention through its fire warden program. He is flanked by Deputy Fire Commissioner Bernard Alderman, Fire Commissioner Edward Thompson, and Asst. Fire Chief Charles E. McKeogh. Presentation was made on March 25, the anniversary of the 1911 Triangle Fire tragedy, at the general headquarters of the ILGWU.

ILG Fire Safety Program Cited

In the presence of top-ranking officers of the New York City Fire Department, Fire Commissioner Edward Thompson on March 25, 1964, presented a special Certificate of Appreciation to Pres. David Dubinsky expressing the department's continuing regard for the union's fire safety program.

The award was made on the 53rd anniversary of the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Co. fire which took the lives of 146 garment workers in 1911.

Fire Commissioner Thompson noted the impact of the ILGWU

fire wardens in the sharp curtailment of fire accidents in garment shops. Regular shop inspections made in March and September by the wardens with the cooperation of the employers are at the heart of an industrial safety program, he said, which is unique and still the best of its kind.

The citation for Pres. Dubinsky reads: "In recognition of the splendid cooperation with the New York City Fire Department in the performance of a public service to save lives and property by bringing the life saving message

of fire prevention to Union Men and Women through promotion of the Fire Warden Program and in alerting them to remove fire hazards from their places of employment."

In his reply, after receiving the award, Pres. Dubinsky thanked Commissioner Thompson and Charles E. McKeogh, assistant chief of the Fire Department, reports by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control made over 20 years ago indicating the union's early and continuing interest in fire prevention.

Negotiations by the South Jersey Joint Board last month affecting nearly 1,000 workers in the dress and housewares industries resulted in new agreement terms bringing substantial benefits to the workers involved. Parleys with dress

firms Hargre Procks, Carol Crawford, Microchuck & Sons, D. Bantia Dress and Chatham Dress, employing about 900 workers, yielded an increase of 7 percent as of March 2, 1964. Time workers won a 5 percent boost, with a minimum of \$2.50 a week, and 16¢ for cutters.

The present 5 percent payment to the various funds was increased by 1 percent retroactive to January 1, 1964, and an additional 1 percent effective March 2, 1964. Provision was also made for another 1½ percent to be negotiated at a future time.

The following hourly minimums were established: \$1.50 for floor workers, \$1.70 for operators, \$2.15 for pressers, and \$2.86 for cutters.

Bonnell Dress, a housewares manufacturer employing 170 workers, agreed to a 5 percent increase for piece workers, \$3.50 a week for time workers and 16¢ for cutters. Minimum for operators and press-

ers were set at \$1.60 an hour, with \$2.86 for cutters. The fund payments are to be the same as above.

Assisting Vice Pres. William Ross in the negotiations were Manager Morris Dobren, Assistant Manager Harry Benn, and Business Agents Tom Bole, Barney Lesnick, Miriam Mieloff, Sarah Campanella and Joe Barnack. Shop committees participated actively in the negotiations.

Penn Novelty Fails

A 3-year agreement covering 80 workers of Penn Novelty Co., a Schiffler embroidery firm, resulted in a wage boost of 10 cents an hour effective as of January 1, 1964 and an additional 10 cents an hour effective January 1, 1965. Albert Acorzi, assistant manager of the Philadelphia-based firm, and John Bardi, shop chairman Paul Mihanian assisted Manager Ross in the negotiations.

Conn. Sunbeam Sees 'Light' on Minimums After 'Quickie' Halt

A wholly-owned subsidiary of the giant Jonathan Logan complex learned the hard way that the dress contract minimums apply to big and small alike—a one-day work stoppage, reports Vice Pres. Edward Kramer, general manager of the Eastern Region.

The stoppage occurred at Sunbeam Dress in New Haven, Conn. An inside shop for the Logan-owned jobber known as Junior Accotti, according to Manager Bert Cooper.

The issue was new minimums—one that local management unilaterally resolved with the flat statement: "I won't pay. I don't care what you do." And with this comment, the employer refused to discuss the matter with the business agent or manager.

A phone call from the manager to shop chairwoman Anna De Caprio, and the 110 workers walked off the job.

But not for long. Another phone call, this time from the employer to the union office, and the

workers were back the next day, with minimums retroactive to effective date of the contract for senior machine operators and the entire shipping department.

CLOAK PACT TALKS TO RESUME, IN APRIL

Negotiations are expected to be resumed early this month between the New York Cloak Joint Board and several employer associations on new collective contract terms affecting some 40,000 workers in the metropolitan area.

At present, employer organizations are studying and discussing the union proposals presented at the initial parleys last month by Vice Pres. Herach Mendelsohn, joint board general manager.

These include a 10 percent wage increase; rise in minimums and averages; a second week's vacation, to be paid directly by the employers; an increase of 1 percent in percentage payments to health and welfare funds; addition of Columbus Day for a total of 7½ guaranteed paid holidays; revision of the escalator clause to eliminate the 5 percent minimum.

Affected by the talks are workers in New York City plus those in the Cloak Out-of-Town Department, including Connecticut, New York State and in the South Jersey Joint Board.

came from the Republican side of the aisle. One Democrat, Harold B. Rudolph, of York County, cast his vote for the benefit slashes.

Throughout the months of bitter debate about Scranton's unemployment insurance program, the Republican administration never refuted ILGWU charges that the legislation would remove 100 families from the benefit list while slashing the benefits of more than 100,000 other workers.

Humming N'East Organizes Singing Needles Plant in Pa.

An intensive organizing drive at the Singing Needles plant in Leola, Pennsylvania, culminated in a swift victory recently when a majority of the firm's 200 workers signed up with the union, reports Vice Pres. David Gingold, director of the Northeast Department.

The plant, which is located in the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch country, is owned

by William Carter, and produces

linen and children's underwear.

The union followed up this rapid success by immediately filing a petition with the National Labor Relations Board for a representation election at the plant. Hearings by the NLRB were scheduled to begin March 31.

According to Sol Hoffman, Pa. director of organization, the campaign is being coordinated by organizer Ramona McCoy, with the assistance of organizers Ed Belasco, Mickey Roth and Irene Gröniger.

Shop Unit Cited

Hoffman further notes that the union triumph was in large measure due to the active efforts of a shop committee which included Julie Berklich, Stella Beck,

Mary Barton, Minerva Bowers, Catherine Chant, Evelyn Evers, Ruth Hughes, Jean Kline, Carrie McCoy, Gertrude Miller, Freda O'Malley, Joan Pine, Joan Vinnick, Susan Warner, June Wagner and Lydia Watterson. Valuable assistance was also furnished by Lancaster, Pa. ILGers Jane Busch and Marian Allgood.

Scranton Squeezes Out 'Victory' Against Jobless

Pennsylvania's Governor William Scranton got his slashes in unemployment insurance benefits passed last month, but to do it required a barrage of misrepresentation, arm twisting and legislative gogging.

After 5 weeks of tumultuous legislative sessions, highlighted by the largest trade

union rally in recent state history, the Scranton cuts in unemployment insurance were passed in each house of the state legislature by a single vote.

At issue, are revisions which would slash total jobless pay benefits and severely tighten eligibility qualifications in a state law plagued by unemployment.

As the state Senate was considering the Scranton measure, ILGers and other trade unionists maintained an all-night vigil in the galleries in protest against the "ripoff" bill while Republicans were attempting to force reluctant representative back into line.

By dawn of March 13, the Republicans had rammed all their

people behind the Scranton proposals and passed the measure with a margin of 1 over the constitutional minimum.

As the bills went to the state assembly, 20,000 unionists gathered in Harrisburg on March 18, dramatizing their opposition to the Scranton cuts.

Statewide Activity

The mass gathering focused attention on the weeks of community effort through the state. Pennsylvania ILGers and other unionists had held rallies, distributed handbills at unemployment offices, supermarkets and factory gates, gathered petitions and appeared on radio and television.

As the measure neared vote in the state assembly, the Scranton administration engaged in a series of questionable, underhanded tactics which may subject the bill to court scrutiny in the future.

At one point in the assembly debate, state and capitol policemen were brought into the chamber. Democrats protested their presence as an attempt at intimidation, at which point the speaker ordered the police to leave.

After the assembly had been in and out of session for more than 2 hours, the measure was finally put to the vote. The "aye" vote was 106, the absolute minimum for passage; 105 of those "aye"

President's Plan of Action to Win War Against Poverty

President Lyndon B. Johnson has called for "total victory" in the nation's war against poverty. In a special message to Congress, Johnson mapped out a broad program of action whose goal will be "an America in which every citizen shares all the opportunities of his society and every man has a chance to advance his welfare to the limits of his capacities."

The nation's Chief Executive urged Congress to enact the administration's Economic Opportunity Act which contains the proposed anti-poverty measures. The \$70 million administration proposal is geared to bolstering education and job opportunities for deprived youths and the development of community action programs.

"There are millions of Americans—one fifth of our people—who have not shared in the abundance which has been granted to most of us, and on whom the gates of opportunity have been closed," Johnson said, adding that the new legislative weapons being submitted to Congress would help eradicate this economic injustice and its resultant hardships.

AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany congratulated the President for his "eloquent" message to Congress, and expressed particular gratification that Johnson "is determined to strike at the causes of poverty, not merely the consequences." He said the President realizes that the Economic Opportunity Act, "imaginative and vastly important though it is, cannot by itself achieve this—and the nation's—objectives."

The broad aims of the administration's programs—to expand work and educational opportunities for young people, spur community anti-poverty efforts and help small business expand employment—are all praiseworthy, the AFL-CIO chief observed.

"But in order to create adequate economic opportunities for the 35 million Americans who now live in poverty, much more is required," he declared.

Meany said that he was sure the President, in expressing his "total commitment" to the fight against "the nation's most dangerous domestic enemy," had in mind such pending items as:

- Extension of the accelerated public works program, which Meany noted is soon to expire, "with the 200,000 jobs it currently provides." It should be renewed with a \$2 billion appropriation, he said.

- Extension of coverage of the federal wage-hour law to millions of workers now excluded and an increase in the minimum wage to \$2 an hour.
- Prompt enactment of old-age social security hospital insurance.

- Broadening of the food stamp program.
- Establishment of federal standards for the unemployment compensation system "which no longer approaches its stated purpose of tiding over the jobless."

- Stepped-up housing and urban renewal programs, plus aid to mass transit to stem the deterioration of metropolitan centers.

- Interim measures to supplement the proposed study of automation and assist its victims.

In his message, Johnson cited many of the pending programs mentioned by Meany and asked Congress for immediate action on all of them. The President suggested agreement with labor's spokesman when he said that the proposed Economic Opportunity Act "is the foundation of our war on poverty, but it does not stand alone."



"You'll Have to Use the Big Guns."

Key Elements

Key elements in the President's legislative program are a Job Corps offering training and work experience on conservation and other projects for 100,000 male youths between the ages of 16 and 21; work training programs for 200,000 other young men and women living at home, and federal aid to create part-time jobs for 140,000 youths who would not otherwise be able to go to college.

"We will give high priority to helping young Americans who lack skills, who have not completed their education or who cannot complete it because they are too poor. The years of high school and college are the most critical stage of a young person's life. If they are not helped then, many will be condemned to a life of poverty which they, in turn, will pass on to their children," the President noted.

The administration's program also would provide federal help to communities developing their own plans to attack the sources of poverty, direct grants to help low-income rural families advance

'Must Get at the Basic Causes'

(Excerpts from recent statements by AFL-CIO Executive Council)

We applaud President Johnson for his pledge to lead the nation in an "unconditional" war, here and now, on poverty. With forthrightness and courage he has forced millions of most affluent Americans to face up to the fact that one-fifth of the families in the richest and most productive nation of the world still live in poverty. Even more important, he has challenged us to end this ugly blight.

In now launching all-out war on poverty, adequate measures to immediately alleviate human suffering are imperative. The food-stamp plan and other measures to provide an adequate diet for all needy families should be improved and extended. But at the same time such humanitarian efforts are being pursued, fundamental measures must deal with the basic causes of poverty at their roots.

In planning these actions, 4 major areas of responsibility in which the federal government must lead—but in which state and local governments and private groups must cooperate—are evident.

First, it is clearly self-evident that the long and persistent trend of rising unemployment and under-employment must be reversed. If any significant progress is to be made in eradicating poverty, achievement of the national goal of jobs at decent pay for all Americans who are able and willing to work must underlie any realistic anti-poverty program.

The stubborn persistence of poverty since the mid-1950s—during a period in which the majority of Americans have continued to improve their living standards—has substantially rooted in the rising trend of unemployment and part-time work. What is more, if this deplorable situation is allowed to continue as a consequence of labor displacement at a time when new jobseekers are increasing faster than ever before—we will experience spreading poverty rather than its reduction.

If national economic policy

continues to entrench greater productive efficiency and higher profits as the top-priority goals, rather than fulfillment of the promises of the Employment Act of 1946, a crusade against poverty—in matter how well intended—will show only scant results.

One of the major needs at this time—in addition to other long-range job-expansion actions—is a vast increase in federal outlays for job-creating public works. This will quickly create jobs—including substantial employment opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled workers—and at the same time provide vitally needed public improvements of permanent worth.

Towards this end, the new existing Public Works Acceleration Program should be extended, with a \$2 billion appropriation, and similar measures should be enacted which would create jobs, producing schools, hospitals, housing, urban redevelopment and other improvements that all communities urgently need.

In addition, special measures to assist the jobless, and the under-employed are essential parts of the campaign to eliminate poverty. These include improvement of the federal-state unemployment compensation system through the application of federal standards, implementation of the national training program in a manner that upgrades skills while safeguarding worker standards, a more effective nationwide public employment service, relocation allowances to aid the jobless to move to areas where work is available, enactment of effective fair employment practices legislation and strengthening of the area redevelopment effort. Such measures are vitally important to aid jobless and under-employed workers to improve their incomes and opportunities.

Second, programs to lift the incomes of low-paid workers must be an integral part of the same plan to eradicate the sources of poverty. Extension of minimum-wage coverage and an increase in the minimum hourly rate are essential, as well as special aids for our tragically exploited farm workers including termination of

the bracco importation program. These programs are essential to raise the income standards of the millions of impoverished employed workers and the federal outlays.

Third, no war against poverty can be meaningful unless adequate family income protection is provided for those who cannot be self-sustaining even in a full-employment economy, because of such hazards to the problems of these families, a variety of special aids are vitally necessary.

A hospital insurance program for the aged, under social security, should be immediately adopted. Social security benefits for retirees, survivors, and disabled should be substantially increased.

Fourth, in the effort to conquer poverty, a substantially increased effort must be launched to meet special problems of the poor in the areas of health, education, housing and personal adjustment. Particularly, increased and improved opportunities for education must be made available for the children of the poor, if the cycle of poverty is to be broken.

The war on poverty requires a vast increase in the quantity and improvement in the quality of education, health care, low-cost housing, consumer counseling and personal guidance services for the members of low-income families. Without such efforts, their avenues towards higher living standards will also be blocked.

Improvement in the educational opportunities available to the children of low-income families, including federal aid for school construction and extension of free public education to the college level, must be viewed as basic public investments in the nation's future.

Through supplemental federal aid for school districts where the need is greatest, the spread of junior colleges, substantial increases in the availability and amount of college scholarships and revival of the National Youth Administration idea of the 1930's, greater educational opportunities for these children can be achieved, the cycle of poverty can be broken, and the entire nation can be enriched.

VERT

themselves, guarantee loans to enable small business to expand their employment, and 3,000 to 5,000 Volunteers for America—a version of the proposed domestic Peace Corps—to work on special anti-poverty assignments at federal, state and local levels.

Hit Poverty at Source

By this new community action program, Johnson said, "we intend to strike at poverty at its source—in the streets of our cities and on the farms of our countryside, among the very young and the impoverished old."

The President set the total first-year cost of the program at \$682.5 million—about 1 percent of the total budget. A major portion, \$190 million, would finance the proposed Job Corps with the aim of enrolling 40,000 young people the first year, and up to 100,000 later.

About half the youths would be assigned for work on conservation projects, but with emphasis on basic education. The other half would be assigned to residential centers providing both basic education and job training.

About \$150 million would be allotted to work-training projects administered by the Department of Labor to put some 200,000 young men and women to work in their home areas on projects developed by state and local governments and non-profit agencies. This would include work in hospitals, libraries, playgrounds, settlement houses and other public projects. The federal government would provide up to 90 percent of the funds for the first 2 years and up to 75 percent thereafter.

This would also be the federal share, totalling \$72.5 million in first year, of the program to underwrite part-time jobs for youths from low-income families attempting to work their way through college.

Spar Local Plans

The biggest item in the anti-poverty program, \$315 million in the first year, seeks to spur cities and towns into developing their own anti-poverty plans, with special emphasis on educational services, job and family counseling and health projects. The federal government would pay 90 percent of the costs for the first 2 years and up to 75 percent thereafter.

Other details of the President's legislative program include:

- \$50 million to provide direct loans of up to \$1,500 to low-income rural families where such aid is likely to help them permanently lift their income levels, and to aid non-profit corporations acquire land for development into family farms.
- \$25 million for a program of guaranteed loans to businesses expanding their job rosters, the loans to equal \$10,000 for each new job created.
- Liberalization of the Small Business Administration's loan program, with no additional funding authority needed.
- \$150 million to cover experimental projects by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare designed to encourage state programs of job training for unemployed fathers or other members of families receiving aid to dependent children.
- \$10 million for administration of the Office of Economic Opportunity and financing of the Volunteers for America.

The President said that he does not intend the drive against poverty to become a "series of uncoordinated and unrelated efforts" and for this reason he has proposed the creation of a new Office of Economic Opportunity in the executive branch.

He appointed Sargent Shriver, now director of the Peace Corps, to the post as his personal "chief of staff" in the war on poverty. Shriver will assume direct responsibility for the proposed new programs and will work with and through existing government agencies.

Congress responded quickly to the President's call. A special panel of the House Labor Committee opened hearings on the bill with Shriver as the administration's lead-off witness.



"Under-educated and untrained . . . faced with an alarming decrease in the number of unskilled jobs."

WHO ARE AMERICA'S POOR?

"CHARLIE L." IS 17, OUT-OF-SCHOOL, jobless, almost illiterate and doesn't much care. Charlie stopped caring after spending many fruitless months after quitting school making the rounds of employers in search of a job.

Now Charlie is, content to wait; for what, he doesn't know. He passes the time on a park bench, hangs around the corner, sleeps late in the mornings. For Charlie, it is a world of interminable boredom, punctuated only by a few flashes of violence.

Who will help Charlie, when he does not even know he needs help? And who will help the hundreds of thousands of youths like Charlie who are well along the road to crime? These youths, growing up without the tools to enable them to function in society, will take the poverty they inherited and perpetuate it on to the next generation.

Under-educated, untrained youth faced with an alarming decrease in the number of unskilled jobs being produced by a mechanized economy have become a hard-core element of the one-fifth of our population considered to be living in actual poverty.

Charlie is a product of the big city slums. But there are rural slums also. Take the case of Benny M. He has 9 children and a 90-acre farm which he is 'not' farming because he cannot raise the capital necessary for seed, fertilizer and livestock.

Last year, he had an income of \$715. He owes \$2,300 and the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) had to reject his loan application because Benny is too poor a credit risk.

Yet Benny is industrious, experienced, sober. Poverty, which has ground him into the dirt, each day mixes him further in debt.

WHO ARE AMERICA'S POOR? SENATOR

Goldwater believes that they are that portion of society which has neither the brains nor ambition to "get ahead." [Others point out that they also have not had the good fortune to have inherited a decent start.]

But a recent study of the pattern of poverty in the United States tells a different story. It shows that poverty strikes with nagging persistence at certain "poverty-linked" groups in our society. If an American family is in one of these groups, probability is that it will be poor.

The study, "Poverty in America," was made by Dr. Oscar Ornati, for the National Policy Committee on Pockets of Poverty. Dr. Ornati, a professor of

economics at the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, based his study on 3 years of tabulations of patterns of society.

Taking \$2,000 as the arbitrary annual cash income below which a family of 4 could be considered destitute, the report finds that 1 in every 8 families was below this line in 1960. But the proportion rises to 1 in 3 in the case of the following categories:

- Non-white families
- Families headed by a female
- Families 65 years of age or over
- Rural farm families
- Families with less than 8 years' education
- Families whose head has had at most only part-time work experience.

Where a family has not merely one but 2 or more of the above characteristics, the probability of poverty is overwhelming. For a family with these "poverty linked" characteristics, the rare escapes from poverty require the unusual combination of great ability, hard work, good luck and an exceptionally prosperous economy.

FURTHERMORE, DR. ORNATI PREDICTS THAT forces within society are tending to extend poverty, and that the number of impoverished families can be expected to increase in both numbers and percentage in the next decade.

"One out of every 10 Americans exists in a condition of acute poverty below subsistence standards; almost 1 out of every 4 Americans exists below adequate standards, with only the bare essentials of life; more than 1 out of every 3 American lives below the level of minimum comfort."

The widespread rural poverty is largely a product of rising prices of farm machinery, fertilizer, steel wire at the same time that the farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar has gone down.

Older people are increasingly subjected to poverty because of the erosion of values of their pensions and spiraling medical care costs.

Young people and non-whites are increasingly bearing the brunt of society's mechanization while the heritage of discrimination has blocked the flow of minority groups out of the poverty cycle.

These are America's poor. What has separated them from the country-club set is not the indiscriminate "ambition" or "intelligence" which Senator Goldwater talks about, but the inability of generation after generation to break out of a "poverty-linked" environment without help.

Eastern Region Pact Inking Garner Dress Independents

Contract renewals with Dress Joint Council independent jobbers, incorporating provisions of the recently-negotiated major market pact, have brought gains to some 200 workers in 7 contracting shops in New York State, reports Vice Pres. Edward Kramer, Eastern Region general manager.

Highlights of the compacts with Litt-Gluck and Bol Walters include the 2-step percentage boost from 35 to 45 over settled piece rates and the 5 percent increase for time workers.

Raises in minimums follow established standards for out-of-

town dress pacts, according to Assistant General Manager Bol Goldberg.

The Litt-Gluck shops involved are Co-operative Dress Co. and Hamilton Manufacturing Co. of Albany; Crini Dress in Highland; the McAllister Dress Co. of Poughkeepsie;

and Dolet Manufacturing Co. of East Falls.

The boosts for Bol Walters have gone into effect at the jobber's inside shop in Nyack and at Viro Sportswear Co. of Springfield Gardens, Long Island.

The pacts with both jobbers also follow the provisions of the major market agreement for a second weeks' vacation, with increases in contributions to the health and welfare and retirement funds.

Cleveland Booster Bunnies



Special cadre of ILGers in Cleveland, Ohio, dressed in Easter Bunny costumes, who conducted recent intensive campaign against struck Judy Bond, while helping to promote the union label.

S'East Catches Runaway Barnwell; Wins Moulton Rehiring, Back Pay

The Southeast Region hit the victory scoreboard twice in recent actions involving the winning of a representation election of a runaway firm and the rehiring with back pay of unfairly discharged workers, reports E. T. Kehrer, regional director.

The runaway corralled by the union, is Barnwell Manufacturing Co. in Erin, Tennessee, where by an overwhelming vote of 108 to 46 the ILGWU won a representation election supervised by the National Labor Relations Board.

A subsidiary of the Colonial Corporation chain, Barnwell closed down its plant in Barnwell, South Carolina, and moved its operations to Erin.

The union stuck to the heels of the firm and immediately inaugurated a drive to organize the

workers at the new plant. Persistent efforts by regional staffers, particularly Richard Niernann and Carl Stafford, were rewarded by the workers' vote of confidence expressed in the recently held election.

In compliance with an order handed down by a NLRB trial examiner, the Moulton Manufacturing Co. of Moulton, Alabama, has reinstated 3 unjustly discharged workers and compensated them with back pay to the tune of \$2,501.70.

The workers involved—Levon Wallace, Bernice Hutto and Helen Suggs—were illegally fired for engaging in pro-ILGWU activities during an organizing drive at the plant last summer.

The action by the firm reflects only partial concurrence with the NLRB ruling which upheld a series of unfair labor charges filed by the union.

In addition to the rehiring, the board trial examiner ordered Moulton to "cease and desist" from discouraging membership in the ILGWU by discrimination against the workers; threatening to discharge employees who did not vote against the union in an NLRB-conducted representation election; and unlawfully interrogating employees as to how they would vote in the election.

Pertinent Petitioners



Thyra Swanson, member of New York Local 23-25, adds her name to the 34,690 other ILGers who called for revision of the state's unemployment insurance law as Lydia Vargas of the Local 23-25 staff, looks on. More than 29,000 ILGers in New York City locals and close to 8,000 members from Eastern Region, Cloyd Out-of-Town and Northeast Department affiliates signed the petitions drawn up by union's Political Department.

The MISSING Link

Look For
This Symbol
of Quality!

When Buying
• DRESSES
• BLOUSES
• SKIRTS
• SPORTSWEAR
• COATS
• SUITS
• CHILDREN'S WEAR



This petite miss points to the union label message at a recent label fashion show held at Sudbury, in northern Ontario.

Toronto Cloaks Map Pact Parley Actions

In preparation for the opening of contract negotiations in the Toronto cloak industry, the first in a series of policy coordination meetings took place last month in Montreal aimed at meshing uniform policy in the 2 Canadian cities, reports Toronto Manager Sam Kraisman.

In accordance with usual procedure, a conference was held at the Montreal office of Vice Pres. Benard Shave at which preliminary guidelines were established. ILGers in the 2 cities have been following a joint policy procedure for many years for these mutual benefit.

As the present contract is set to expire June 30, the Toronto Cloak Joint Board is presently at work planning for conferences with the cloak manufacturers' association for contract renewal.

On the organizing side of the ledger, Toronto ILGers report "good progress." Several applications for certification are pending before the Labor Relations Board. One shop, Paradise Classics, employing about 100 workers, has

already been organized and signed up, as reported earlier in Justice. Sudbury, in northern Ontario, was the scene recently of an outstanding union label promotional show. In conjunction with the women's auxiliary of the steel workers union, the union label department arranged a fashion show on March 11. The verdict, from local radio, television and press, was "outstanding."

Sudbury, a city of 40,000 located in the heart of a coal mining section, is "100 percent union." During the week prior to the show, ILGers conferred with women's organizations and other groups spreading the label word. Another show is planned for Brantford, Ontario. Under the direction of Assistant Manager A. Magnerman, member visits to retail stores are being planned as part of the label drive.

Bobbie Brooks Signs At New Shop in Ohio

An agreement has been signed with Bobbie Brooks, Inc., largest producer of diversified women's apparel products, bringing union conditions to workers at the firm's newly opened shop in Middletown, Ohio, reports Sam Janis, director of the Ohio-Kentucky Region.

The contract covers the shop's present work force, some 40 employees, but expansion plans by the firm are expected to increase the number of workers to 100 in the near future.

Playing a principal role in the successful pact negotiations was Business Agent Arlene Leonard. The new union members have elected a temporary shop committee consisting of Dora Allen, Charlene Allen, Mildred Ansell, Shirley Oswell and Patsy Bartlett.

In another area development, Cleveland ILGers have been signing an "intensive" and effective "Don't Buy Judy Bond" campaign. During the past month

alone, over 20,000 shopping bags and 25,000 leaflets expressing the union's appeal, have been distributed to consumers.

The focal points of these activities have been outside the city's largest department stores, particularly the May Company and the Higbee Company.

Dressed in Easter Bunny costumes, special cadres of ILGers manned posts outside these stores and handed out "Don't Buy Judy Bond" materials.

Spearheading this assault against struck Judy Bond are Vernell Smith and Barbara Smith, staff members of the Cleveland Joint Board, and regional staffer Michael Premski.

Alabama Award



Two ILGWUers illegally fired by Moulton Mfg. Co., Moulton, Alabama, receive back pay checks awarded after by the NLRB. From left, Organizer Edw. Sharp presents check to Bernice Hutto, and Lavon Wallace accepts check from Organizer Hutton Parker.

2 Out-of-Montreal Units Pen Gains in Dress Pact

New contracts affecting some 110 workers have been reached with 2 Montreal, out-of-town shops netting wage boosts and other gains embodied in the master agreement prevailing between the union and the Montreal Dress and Sportswear Manufacturers' Guild, reports Vice Pres. Bernard Shale.

The new agreements cover some 85 workers at Boisvert and Pils, contractor in St. Ludger De Beauve, located 180 miles from Montreal, and some 25 workers at Suzanne Dress and Sportswear Reg'd. Klose contractors in St. Eustache, operating 20 miles outside the city.

For the workers at both shops, the contracts represent an 8-cent hourly pay increase, higher minimums, vacation pay based on 4 percent of cash firm's payroll, plus employer contributions to the union's health and welfare funds.

Pact negotiations at the Boisvert shop were conducted by St. Breseur, Montreal assistant general manager, and Dress Manager Maurice Mangel.

The successful agreement with Suzanne Dress was achieved through the efforts of Manager Mangel, and Gerard Peirer, assistant manager of the Montreal Dressmakers' Union.

Second Fashion Film

The ILGWU Union Label Department in Canada has produced its second 15-minute fashion film for television and group distribution.

Entitled "Fashion in '64," the black-and-white film was shot in a Polynesian decor under the direction of Roger Racine, a producer with the Canadian Broad-

Save on Furniture At Chelsea Co-op

A new Co-op Furniture Center, which opened March 19, at 22nd Street and Eighth Avenue, in the area of the ILGWU Cooperative Homes, provides additional consumer services by the United Housing Foundation, sponsor of co-operative housing communities in New York City.

The center will offer union members, as well as the general consumer public, a large selection of quality furniture at considerable savings. Store hours are Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 A.M. to 9 P.M. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9:30 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Corporations' Dividends Soaring at Start of '64

During the first 2 months of 1964, cash dividend payments by corporations holding public reports soared by \$160 million over the dividends paid during January and February of 1963. They hit the \$1,762,240,000 mark.

N.Y. Dress Future '22' Forum Topic

Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, general manager of the Dress Joint Council, will speak on "The Future of the Dress Industry in New York" at the next Dressmakers' Local 22 forum, Thursday, April 9. The talk will be given at the local's council room, 218 West 40th Street, right after work.

Previous speakers at the forums have been ILGWU Assistant Pres. Gus Tyler, A.H. Haakim, member of The New York Times editorial board, and John Gates of the ILGWU Research Department.

JFK Shrine Visit

Eighty members of Local 22 took a union-sponsored tour of Washington, D.C., during the weekend of March 6. The trip was highlighted by a visit to the grave of President Kennedy where an honor guard escorted 5 local members to the gravesite for a wreath-laying ceremony.

N'East Work Stoppages Hit Violations of Pact

Work stoppages took place in several districts of the Northeast Department last week when a number of employers failed to put into effect gains won thru the Dress Joint Council agreement renewal, reports Vice Pres. David Gindgold, department director. Violations included employer not paying the prescribed minimums, or settlement sheets rates or guide rates.

The matter was referred to Harry Miller, industry impartial chairman, who ruled that the workers should return to their jobs while their claims were being bolstered, with the assurance that employers would be required to comply with all terms of the agreement.

Hit Scranton in Harrisburg



Part of ILGWU contingent in the throng of 20,000 who massed in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania's capital, to protest Governor William Scranton's slashes in unemployment insurance benefits.

Board Orders Ballot At Midwest Varynit

The NLRB has ordered the holding of a representation election at the Varynit Mills of Franklin, Indiana, rejecting some of the firm's spurious legal arguments designed to delay action, reports Vice Pres. Morris Bial, director of the Midwest Region.

The ILGWU had petitioned for an election early this year to represent the 140 garment workers at the plant, which manufactures lingerie. As a result of the hearing held recently in Indianapolis, the NLRB has ruled against the firm's delaying tactics and has excluded from the election unit the clerical employees of the company which the company wished to include. Varynit, a division of the Beau-nit Corp., tried to throw a monkey wrench into the proceedings by questioning the constitutionality of the delegation of authority by

the NLRB to a regional office.

The board rejected this argument and cited 3 previous cases in support of the position that "nothing in the laws involved requires or suggests referral to the board for initial decision."

When Varynit attempted to include some of its office workers in the election unit, Assistant Regional Director Harold Schwartz, who represented the ILGWU at the NLRB hearing, contended that these workers were office clerical employees and should be excluded.

Union Upheld

The board upheld this argument, ruling that these employees "do not have a sufficient community of interest with the unit employees to warrant their inclusion in the unit."

The company constantly objected to rulings of the NLRB hearing officer and attempted in many ways to disrupt and postpone the hearing. The decision of the NLRB, however, overruled all these objections.

The organizing campaign at Varynit is being directed by ILGWU Indiana Representative Norbert Ciesli, Business Agent Bernard Hollan and Organizer Mordell Wiener.

LID Apr. 4 Fete to Honor Dr. Harry W. Laidler at 80

Dr. Harry W. Laidler, founder of the League for Industrial Democracy and its executive director for over 26 years, will be honored by the LID on Saturday, April 4 on his 80th birthday. Among those who will speak at the luncheon in the Hotel Astor are ILGWU Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, Norman Thomas, and ILGWU Assistant Pres. Gus Tyler.

UNITY HOUSE

Now is the time to make your reservations for the best accommodations at Unity House. Reservations can be made at 275-718 Ave., N.E., 21st floor, Monday through Friday, from 9 AM to 6 PM.

STARTING APRIL 6

Mary Anderson: Labor Crusader



Some of the more than 200 notables who attended memorial services at AFL-CIO headquarters in honor of Mary Anderson, died early this year at the age of 91. As a crusading organizer for the Women's Trade Union League, at the beginning of the century, Miss Anderson gave unstinting aid to Chicago garment workers and packing house workers. More than 800 friends and associates who knew her during her long years as a champion of the oppressed and the underprivileged gathered last month at AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington to pay tribute to Miss Anderson.

MARY ANDERSON, WHO CAME TO THE United States as a Swedish immigrant girl of 16 and rose to head the U.S. Labor Department's Women's Bureau, died early this year at the age of 91. As a crusading organizer for the Women's Trade Union League, at the beginning of the century, Miss Anderson gave unstinting aid to Chicago garment workers and packing house workers. More than 800 friends and associates who knew her during her long years as a champion of the oppressed and the underprivileged gathered last month at AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington to pay tribute to Miss Anderson.

AMONG THOSE SPEAKING AT THE MARCH ceremony was Pauline Newman, education director of the ILGWU Union Health Center and a close associate of Mary Anderson's in the women's trade union movement. Others who spoke were Senator Wayne Morse; former Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins; Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz; Mrs. Esther Peterson, special assistant to the President for consumer affairs; and William Schmitzler, AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. Peterson, Miss Anderson's successor as chief of the Women's Bureau, presided at the memorial

services and played a tape recording she had made of an interview with Mary Anderson.

PAULINE NEWMAN REMINISCED ABOUT Miss Anderson's crusading role in the fight for women's rights. "Mary and her generation of working women lived in a world of unbelievable exploitation, of unlimited hours of labor, of starvation wages. It was a world in which Mary Anderson and thousands like her, in order to exist at all, were compelled to live in cheap tenements, wear cheap clothes, eat cheap food and breathe an atmosphere of hopelessness and despair.

"Society as a whole knew little and cared less about those on the 'other side of the tracks.' To live in such a world required courage, fortitude, hope and a conquering spirit. Mary possessed all this and more.

"It was the Women's Trade Union League which provided an opportunity for trade union women with potential talent for leadership to leave the factory and assume the pioneer work of organizing women into trade unions.

"It is good to know that Mary lived long enough to see the success of her efforts for shorter hours, minimum wages, equal pay for equal work and other legislation advancing the standards of the wage-earning woman."

Tax Cuts Boosts' See Spurring Garment Sales

THE INCREASE IN CONSUMER incomes generated in the wake of income tax reduction unquestionably will benefit the apparel industry. The tax savings of many consumers will be relatively small and inadequate for the purchase of high priced items; it may be confidently expected that a share of the addition to disposable income will be spent on clothes. Similarly, the likelihood is that consumers benefiting from the tax cut will share of this windfall to garment purchasing. Thus, for the year as a whole, the industry and retailers may look forward to higher volume.

The economic advance during 1963 exceeded many expectations. In the last quarter of 1962, gross national product—the value of the nation's output of goods and services—was at an annual rate of \$253.2 billion. A year later, in the fourth quarter of 1963 it was at an annual rate of \$300.1 billion, a gain of 6.2 percent. The recovery, which began in February 1961 and is already one of the longest peacetime expansions on record, may continue long enough to become unique in American economic history.

THE OVERALL RETAIL VOLUME of all women's and children's clothing in 1963 registered a 4 percent rise over 1962. The magnitude of gains varied among the different outlets selling women's and children's clothes. Conventional and discount department stores, which do about a third of their business to the producers of our industry, chalked up an overall 6 percent gain between 1962 and 1963. Women's specialty shops gained 2 percent.

The best improvement in the retail women's and children's wear volume occurred in the months of May through August. Sales in this period rose 6 percent over the corresponding months of 1962. Thereafter, in the September through December period, the rate of gain was only 2 percent.

Retail sales of women's and children's garments in the late Spring and Summer months of 1963 benefited not only from the continuing economic advance, but also from unusually favorable weather conditions. High temperatures through the middle of August helped to keep the stocks of summer apparel while the

Highlights from the economic report presented to the meeting of the **ILGWU General Executive Board** at Atlantic City last week by Dr. Lazare Taper, director of the Research Department.

spotter weather in the last two weeks of August soured consumer buying of back-to-school and other Fall apparel.

The slower rate of sales gains in the last part of 1963 as compared with the previous year was brought about by the prolongation of Indian Summer as well as by the inadequate assortments of Fall merchandise in the retailers' hands as a result of their overcautious earlier buying. When seasonable weather did set in by mid-November, sales temporarily were dampened by the pull east over the nation by the assassination of President Kennedy.

Business did however pick up in mid-December and was carried over into the new year. The somewhat better weather conditions in January induced consumers to come to the stores in larger numbers in search of Winter clothes. On the other hand, the continued cold weather held back the early sales of Spring merchandise until the latter part of February, when the warmer days stimulated increased interest in Easter fashions.

THE 1963 PRODUCTION OF SUITS, unit-priced suits, and all types of sweaters was at a 4-year peak, although the margin of advance over the preceding years varied widely, both in relation to the 4-year low as well as in relation to the 1962 output. Production in 1963 was the highest on record for the case of unit-priced dresses and sweaters. A distinct pattern evolved—while the output of women's sweaters weakened, men's exhibited greater strength.

Consumer stimulation was stimulated by the use of imitation fur in the production of coats as well as in other fur-related garments. The use of imitation fur also proved popular in the manufacture of coats and jackets. In the case of dresses, shifts and jumpers command a share of the total production of velvet and crepe in better dresses and corduroy and oxford in the popular ranges.

Stretch fabrics were also extended in many lines, with stretch pants a par-

ticularly big seller. The stretch straps on blouses stimulated the sales together with the use of foundations made of spandex yarn. Flocked girdles are now expected to catch the consumers' fancy. Garments made of double-knit fabrics continued to retain their popularity.

Data on blouses and skirts reflect the continued growth in separate skirt and blouse production merged somewhat along parallel lines until the 1961 recession when skirt production declined faster than blouse. Skirts, however, were slow to recover, but thereafter exhibited a strong upward pull. Blouses, on the other hand, exhibited some hesitancy on the way to the peak levels attained at the end of last year.

UNIT-PRICED DRESS AND SKIRT and jacket volume was at a peak during 1963, exceeding the preceding year's volume by a healthy margin. A comparison between these figures and the data on the number of these garments produced suggests that higher priced garments were in stronger demand, causing the dollar volume to rise more rapidly than the volume in the physical output. Thus, while production of unit-priced dresses in 1963 was 3.7 percent higher than in 1962, deflating the sales volume by the unit price, in the same period, production of skirts rose by 15.7 percent while dollar volume of sales went up by 23.3 percent.

Unit-price performance throughout 1963 is analyzed by 4-month periods to reflect different production seasons, one discovers readily that both unit-priced dresses and skirts and jackets showed steady gains throughout all portions of the year by comparison with 1962. Improvements in skirt and jacket volume were particularly noteworthy—in every one of the 3 1/2 years in 1963 advances exceeded 21 percent. As compared with 1962, sales of blouses and coats and suits were down in the first 4 months of 1963. Gradually, strength was picked up—by coats and suits beginning with May and by blouses beginning with the year, and by blouses beginning with

September. On the other hand, down-priced dresses added in large volume in the first 4 months and slackened thereafter. Thus in the September-December period, all these products except down-priced dresses showed a greater volume than in the preceding year, and even in the case of down-priced dresses the margin of decline was narrower than at mid-year.

Women's sportswear items, such as shorts, pants and play-garments continued to exhibit strength. Similarly, children's sportswear, dresses and separates also showed gains in 1963, even though children's coats, snowsuits and party dresses made a much weaker showing. A mixed picture emerged in underwear, with knits doing better than garments made of woven fabrics. Striped bras and long-leg party girdles helped to boost the sales volume for foundation garments, even though other girdles were down as compared with 1962. Both loungewear and robes, on the other hand, fared ahead.

Early Easter and the varieties of the weather had a varied impact on the industry's operations during the first months of 1964. As a rule, the demand for better outerwear appears to be stronger than those in the popular lines. But there was a particularly good showing reflecting the increasing demand which was manifested last year, although some hesitation was evident in the case of ladies' coats. Four-piece garments, lingerie, loungewear and robes were also in high demand. On the other hand, nightwear performed about on a par with last year.

UNDER THE IMPACT OF COLLECTIVE bargaining negotiations, and later in the year as a result of the raise in the federal minimum wage to \$1.35 an hour, average weekly earnings in 1963 were typically higher than a year earlier. As a result, the price for various types of work, though by widely varying margins, ranging from 0.3 to 12.3 percent depending on the branch of the industry. Real wages improved in both in wage levels and the amount of available work, payrolls in the September-December period were ahead of the corresponding 1962 months by a range of 8.3 to 27.6 percent in the different trades.

GEB Mails Goals, Surveys Gains It's Back-to-School Time For N.Y. Cloak Staffers

(Continued from Page 3)
cent as of March 2, 1964 and by 3 percent more on top of earnings of March 2, 1963. It further prescribes that piece rates must be set to yield average earnings for workers with at least one year experience that will be at least 20 percent higher than the craft minimum. Numerous other improvements are included.

2nd Week Vacation

Among the contract provisions surveyed and summarized by Pres. Gus Tyler in his report was that the extent to which a second week of vacation is already provided for in ILGWU agreements and the rate at which contracts are being made to include craft minimums. In both cases progress in acceptance has been rapid. Virtually complete acceptance will result as the round of contract renewals continues.

Organizing Progress

Organizing also continues at an intense pace in many areas counterbalancing the usual number of visits by firms from the industry. Turnover is the key: In the Cloak Out-of-Town Department, for example, in the past 12 months 12 shops were organized at the same time that 8 went out of business; In the Eastern Region, in the same period, 22 shops with 1,000 workers joined with the union while 48 shops with 1,700 workers left the industry.

The Northeast Department organized 29 shops with 1,095 but found itself pursuing runaway shops moving from one part of

the state to another; the Upper South Department finds itself contending with hostile conduct by the regional office of the National Labor Relations Board. The ILGWU is participating in the general organizing drive of the AFL-CIO across the country around Baltimore.

Finances

Members heard a special report, General Secretary-Treasurer Louis Stulberg analyzing the current state of ILGWU finances. He pointed out that the general funds out of which the union operates (these do not include such funds as those used for death benefit, retirement and health and welfare benefits) are of the most modest size that the union would be experiencing financial difficulties were it not for the income being derived from the investments programmed by the union in the past decade.

Education Program

Assistant Pres. Gus Tyler presented the report for the Education Department, featuring a special program to set pocket books through local affiliates at special low prices. He also put before the ILGWU legislative representative, on current political developments and the report of the ILGWU Management Engineering Department, prepared by its director Mitchell Lokier, stressing the relationship between the contractual craft minimums and craft averages, especially with firms employing staff engineers.

Label Impact

Min Matheson, Label Department director, described the current impact of the new label drive and pointed out that progress is being made in winning the cooperation of the retailers. In many instances retailers are listing their names above the ILGWU label advertisements when they appear in local newspapers. John Desmaro described special features of the Judy Bond drive in respect to the relationship of the union label drive and the policy of retailers.

Legal Cases

ILGWU General Council Morris P. Glushien reviewed the present status of the blouse anti-trust case in which the move by the government to drop the case is being reviewed by the court. He also summarized attempts to limit ILGWU activities in the Judy Bond campaign; latest court and agency developments respecting attempts by firms to evade unionization by going out of business or closing up without first bargaining with the union.

Research Director Lazare Taper presented an economic survey of the industry and nation (see excerpts above).

Puerto Rico

Before adjournment of the ILGWU convention, the new vice president, Alberto Sanchez, reviewed the progress of the ILGWU in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. He stressed the composition of the organization's membership and staff; in the last 3 years alone, 120 veteran officers had retired.

It's Back-to-School Time For N.Y. Cloak Staffers

ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky addressing cloak staffers' seminar.

Changes wrought in the nation and the garment industry over the last few decades have brought in their wake changed concepts of the knowledge required by union staffers for the most effective servicing of the members. Pres. David Dubinsky last month told the opening session of the New York's Information Series of the Officers' Joint Board.

At a gathering at the Hotel Astor, the ILGWU chief told assembled cloak staffers that each "solution" that was achieved brought about new problems in trade unionism. That prompted him to continually be equipped to meet the problems of the future.

In his introductory remarks, Dubinsky stressed the importance of the general manager of the joint board, pointed out that in recent years there has been a marked change in the composition of the organization's membership and staff; in the last 3 years alone, 120 veteran officers had retired. A survey among staffers had indicated widespread support for an educational program to meet current needs. Among subjects on the seminar curriculum, he indicated, are provisions and application of the collective agreement; changes in legislation affecting the various parts of the industry; developments in federal and state labor legislation; political events and activities; economics of the nation and the industry; unemployment insurance and social security. The seminar, which will meet weekly through June 12, is under the direction of ILGWU Assistant Pres. Gus Tyler, and Education Dep't's Saul Neeserich.

CUTTERS COLUMN

Certify More Than Thousand Thru Local 10 Grading Course

The number of cutters who have successfully completed the Local 10-sponsored course in grading has passed the thousand mark, reports Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, manager of L2al 10. With the recent "graduation" of an additional 46 cutters, a total of 1,026 have been certified as having met all the requirements since the program's inception in 1955.

The course teaches cutters how to grade sizes from a pattern and adds considerably to their general knowledge of garment construction. This upgrading of skills frequently leads to higher-paying jobs in the industry. A sizable number of "graduates" of the course subsequently qualified as graders or assistants to graders.

Although 1,026 have earned certificates of completion of the course, actually 1,012 have attended it. The difference is accounted for by dropouts who miss 3 sessions or fail to do the necessary work. Some who passed the course have later returned for a refresher to help them on their job.

The instructors Bob Cohen and Harry Greenberg, members of Local 10 and licensed by the Board of Education—devote a good deal of their time to helping students and graduates meet specific problems posing special technical difficulties. Top men in the trade themselves, they consider it a rewarding experience to help younger men move up in their chosen field of work.

Become Highly Skilled

Students are expected to apply themselves with diligence so they will gain the knowledge and skill needed to cope with complex problems in cutting and in grading. Most employers have learned that graduates can be depended on for highly skilled work such as grading.

Another "semester" was begun recently with one class of 43 members from the dress and miscellaneous trades and another class of 49 members from the cloak branch. They attend 2-hour sessions once a week for 20 weeks after working hours at the headquarters of the Local.

No fee is charged for the course. Members of Local 10 who wish to take it should register with Harry Shapiro, secretary to the executive board, who is the "registrar" for the course and handles all the arrangements.

Noting that, with the completion of the present semester, the "school for graders" of Local 10 will have completed 10 years of service, Manager Falkman stated that it had proved its worth by the members' elevated status in the trade and provided

R. Thompson Dead; So. Illinois Manager

Russell Thompson, manager of the Southern Illinois District Council of the Central States Federation, died last month at the age of 55.

Joining the ILGWU in 1923, he was a charter member of St. Louis Local 181 and was first president of the St. Louis Cotton Dress Joint Board. He came on the union staff in 1934, concentrating on organizing activities in Minnesota and Texas.

After returning to the shop for a period, he came back to the union staff in 1946, first as a business agent and then, with the formation of the district council, as its manager. Survivors are his wife Elaine, whom he met while organizing in Minnesota, and a children.

LOCAL 10 MEMBERS

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 27

Right After Work

MANHATTAN CENTER
34th Street and 8th Avenue

a needed reservoir of skilled mechanics for the various branches of the women's garment industry.

The existence of an adequate supply of skilled cutters and graders, he said, in large measure accounts for the fact that the cutting of over 80 percent of all women's garments is still performed in the New York area.

DRESSMAKERS Application for Retirement

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1964

Will Be Accepted ONLY From

April 15 to June 15

Dressmakers employed in New York City dress shops wishing to retire on October 1, 1964 must apply at the office of the Retirement Fund, 218-232 West 40th St., New York City, in Room 312 (3rd floor) between 9 A.M. and 4:30 P.M.

Registration in New York City will be accepted in the alphabetical order listed below. Those whose last names begin with letter:

- A thru C — April 15 to April 24
- D thru G — April 27 to May 1
- H thru M — May 4 to May 8
- N thru R — May 11 to May 15
- S thru Z — May 18 to May 22

If you cannot come in during the period set aside for you, you may register from May 25 to June 15, 1964.

To be eligible a worker must be 65 years old (except women who can apply for reduced benefits at the ages of 62 to 64) and must have been employed for 20 out of the last 25 years in the dress industry or other industries under jurisdiction of the ILGWU, of which the last 10 years must be continuous. The same rule with respect to required employment applies to a total and permanently disabled worker (if certified to be such by the Medical Board of the Retirement Fund) except that where a worker has become totally and permanently disabled at the age of 59 years, he or she may be retired at full benefits at age 60, and where a worker has been certified as having become totally and permanently disabled at age 55 or over he or she may be retired at reduced benefits between the ages of 54 and 59.

Copies of the rules and regulations of the fund may be obtained at your local union office.

At the time of application, a worker must produce proof of age and social security card. A member of the union must also submit his union book. Proof of age submitted by a female applicant in the form of a birth certificate or passport bearing a name different from her present name, must be supplemented with a marriage certificate.

RETIREMENT FUND OF THE DRESS INDUSTRY OF NEW YORK

Dressmaker-Artist's '1-Man' Show

RITA GATTI, A NEW YORK CITY DRESSMAKER who took up painting as a hobby 5 years ago, opened a "one-man show" at the Contemporary Art Gallery, 40 West 56th Street on March 30.



Painter-dressmaker Rita Gatti, center, shows her latest work to Vice Pres. Issai Breslow, Local 22 manager and to other students in the local's art class.

Rita, a member of New York Dressmakers' Local 22, is a star pupil in the local's art classes. "I began painting at home," she says, "and then I heard about the art class that the union offered. I applied for the class and was accepted. Melville and Henry Hoffman, our teachers, are really wonderful. Without them I would have been lost. They taught me the basic arts."

RITA HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF LOCAL 22 since 1956 and a former shop chairlady at Roberta Ross. Before that, she was an organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in the New England area. She has also attended the Hudson River Labor School and the Fashion Institute of Technology.

The exhibition will run until April 17. Admission is free and all union members are invited to attend.

For Rita, the next task is a planned mural for Local 22's newly-renovated council room. At the March 30 opening of the show, Local 22 held a reception in Rita's honor.

16,000 Montreal Visits To Health Center in '63

Thousands of LLOW members in Montreal visited the union's health center a total of almost 16,000 times in 1963 for diagnosis and treatment. Vice Pres. Bernhard Shlans said the center, whose operations cost \$122,239 during the year, had its biggest 12-month period in history, chalking up a total of 15,981 visits.

'62' Steward Seminars Focus On Unravelling Shop Problems



Matthew Schoenwald, manager of N.Y. Undergarment Workers' Local 62, stresses need for extreme vigilance on contract enforcement in address at last month's seminar for shop chairladies.

A capacity attendance of shop stewards last month provided an auspicious beginning to the series of all-day seminars newly inaugurated by New York Undergarment Workers' Local 62, reports Manager Matthew Schoenwald.

The first session was held at the local's headquarters on Saturday, March 14, with participation limited to 75 shop chairladies to assure ample opportunities for discussion.

"These sessions are designed to help the chairlady with further understanding of the many varied services our union offers and also on how our union functions," Schoenwald explained. "In this way the chairlady will be better informed and provide greater and more efficient service to her fellow members in the shop."

Schoenwald added that "the response to our invitations for this seminar on Saturday, a day when members have family and domestic responsibilities to fulfill, is demonstrative proof of how much our chairladies want this far-reaching and useful training in order to better perform their important shop duties."

Divided into discussion groups, the chairladies were addressed by local staff members on such union topics as severance pay, health and welfare benefits, methods of handling workers' grievances, educational opportunities, and contract enforcement.

In addition, pending legislation on city, state and federal levels, particularly bills affecting labor, were analyzed and discussed. Procedures in mounting political action by shop workers against anti-labor legislation were stressed in this phase of the seminar session.

Schoenwald reports that the next session will be held at the local's headquarters on Saturday, April 11, and the all-day seminars will continue until all chairladies have been afforded the opportunity.

LOCAL 30 DESIGNERS RATIFY PACT TERMS, CITE WELFARE SUMS

Following the recent agreement on terms for about 300 designers in the women's and children's coat and suit industry in New York, the membership of Local 30 and Union Designers Local 30 have unanimously ratified the pact and sent a letter of appreciation to ILGWU General Secretary-Treasurer Louis Stulberg for his "deep concern to achieve the improvements gained in the collective agreement."

The pact, terms include a third vacation week, an additional \$150 a year per worker payment to the health and welfare fund by employers, bringing the total annual payment to \$400, and agreement that initial employment contracts with designers be for a minimum of one year.

Local Manager Harry Turpin reports that 1963 was a "banner year" for health and welfare collections with almost 100 percent of money due actually collected. Almost \$180,000 was collected, consisting of \$114,000 in retirement benefits and \$65,000 in health and welfare benefits. The additional funds provided for in the new agreement will enable a further improvement in services. Turpin also said that unemployment and bad conditions prevalent in the industry in the past few years are being overcome and designers put back to work with good expectations for the future.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

EDITORIAL PAGE



MOVING FORWARD

YOU CAN TELL WHERE YOU'RE GOING if you know where you've been. On that basis the ILGWU General Executive Board scanned the past 6 months of union effort and found cause for optimism.

First of all, the general condition of the national economy finds quick and easy reflection in the economy of the garment industry. Both, according to Dr. Teper, are good, and indeed the tax cut—bigger than a broad box but not as big as a refrigerator—should provide a booster for soft goods sales.

Secondly—and in terms of ILGWU well-being—the successful conclusion of the New York metropolitan dress pact with significant wage and welfare gains has provided a boost in money and morale. Two important challenges confronted the dress union negotiators: the issue of agreements with dress firms not covered by Dress Joint Council agreements and then, as negotiations ended, the issue of a division in the employer ranks that threatened to disrupt the industry.

In both cases, skillful negotiations by Vice Pres. Zimmerman, aided by Pres. Dubinsky, not only surmounted both threats but ended with additional wins—most noteworthy being the lift in the dress vacation benefit. The greatest intangible benefit was the increased determination of the dressmakers to put strict enforcement behind their new contract terms.

Third, the outcome of the dress negotiations, according to Vice Pres. Mendelsund, has already helped clear the path for the current cloakmaker negotiations for renewal of the industry agreements. The same beneficial carry-over will, no doubt, be felt in the skirt and sportswear negotiations as well as those forthcoming in knitgoods and other branches.

Fourth, the issue of the non-market firms that loomed so large in advance of the dress market negotiations washed out, as Pres. Dubinsky conducted parallel negotiations with 6 large firms and concluded them with terms that placed them on a parity with the dress contract as it pertains to the Northeast Department so far as craft minimums are concerned. More importantly, the 6 company-wide master agreements provided a schedule of wage increases in bigger jumps and at a faster pace than those included in the dress market pact. The result is a rapid lifting of wage rates to the dress maker's out-of-New York level.

Fifth, the inclusion of craft minimum wage rates along with the promulgation of schedules of average earnings in each craft to be yielded by settled piece rates will add backbone to earnings. This is especially true in the case of larger firms in many of which company engineers are involved in the determination of rates.

Sixth, the agreement between Bobbie Brooks, Inc. and the ILGWU to try to handle labor-management problems on a year-round basis indicates a step forward in the direction of avoiding crisis negotiations, maintaining industrial peace and boosting earnings by the company and by the worker, through mutual understanding. A first meeting around the conference table has already been held under the skilled guidance of the noted labor arbitrator, David L. Cole.

THESE HALF A DOZEN DEVELOPMENTS directly affect the welfare and the earnings of many thousands of garment workers. They dovetail with an already existing union structure that—far in advance of the rest of the industrial community—established a 35-hour week, sick benefits, vacations and retirement benefits.

The power that moves our union along this path was eloquently described by Alberto E. Sanchez, nominated by Pres. Dubinsky and unanimously elected a vice president by the GEB. In the closing moments of the board meeting he paraphrased the late President Kennedy in declaring that we make best progress when we ask not what the union can do for us but what we can do for the union.

Is Alliance Progressing?

By
WALT W. ROSTOW

Excerpts from address last month by the Chairman of the Policy Planning Council, U.S. State Department, before businessmen's conference on Latin America held in London.

IT IS SOMETIMES SAID THAT THE Alliance for Progress is an enterprise of the U.S. government. This cannot be so, because the U.S. cannot by itself achieve the objective of the Alliance. The Alliance for Progress is a primarily Latin American policy designed to cover the critical period in Latin American history when the Latin American peoples bring about a transition to self-sustained economic growth under conditions of social equity and move forward towards a consolidation of democratic political parties.

We in the U.S., and the friends of Latin America in Europe and elsewhere, can join in this partnership, but only Latin Americans can mobilize the essential local resources—the essential politi-

enterprise required to make the Alliance a success. Although tax and land reform legislation is never easy, and although it is a long way from the development plan set down on paper to the competent execution of specific projects, there is little doubt that among a very wide range of leadership in Latin American life there is an active commitment to go forward, rather than to dig in on the basis of the status quo.

A second, fundamental, hopeful factor is what one might call the structure of the generations. Latin America is full of young men and women, given the surge of population increase in recent times. As one gets to know our Latin American friends, one finds that the younger generations are progressively more committed by conviction to goals identical with those of the Alliance for Progress and technically better trained to move them forward.



cal and human energy and purposefulness—to reshape their institutions and their social and political life to the new patterns required and desired by them.

THE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS is now in its third year of operation. How does it fare?

First, the Alliance for Progress, as a concept and as a working enterprise, has brought about a new degree of consensus in most of the Latin American nations concerning the great tests of public life. In one nation after another, one can see the emergence of moderate, progressive coalitions—or the potential for such coalitions.

The Communists have reckoned quite explicitly in Latin America on the likelihood that the older leaders would resist rigidly the acts of both reform and

LET ME PUT THE MATTER AS bluntly as I recently did to a group of Latin American friends. It is a heartening fact that leaders in the private enterprise sector in Latin America now increasingly accept the need for sustained action in the fields of education, public health, and housing.

The legitimacy of the Alliance for Progress social goals is now widely accepted, and this is, in itself, important. But the private enterprise sector will not truly fulfill its function in a society until it takes to regard the poorer folk as a social problem and begins to regard them as potential customers; and until the private enterprise sector in Latin America abandons the concept of large mark-ups and low turnover and moves toward mass production and marketing with low unit profits.

THE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS is truly an alliance, not because we in the U.S. are contributing money to Latin America, but because the policy of the U.S. is committed to work with those in Latin America who would develop their economic and social life along lines of their own choice and make of their nations the kind of modern democratic states they wish their children to enjoy in the light of their culture, their values, and their aspirations.

LET'S PUT A STOP TO MAIL-ORDER MURDER!

By THOMAS J. DODD

Excerpts from testimony by Democratic Senator from Connecticut before Senate Commerce Committee, urging passage of legislation to regulate interstate shipments of firearms.

DURING 1963, APPROXIMATELY ONE million dangerous weapons were ordered through mail order firms, via common carriers. Thousands of these weapons were delivered to persons with criminal records. One of them was used to murder the President of the United States.

In Fairfax County, Virginia, a 14-year-old boy was recently murdered with a mail order weapon by a teenage friend who was mentally disturbed. When the head of the California firm which shipped this weapon, a convicted ex-convict, was confronted with this fact, he said, "They had the money. I sold them the gun. I didn't break any law, did I?"

In New York City, since June 1, 1963, there have been 131 persons killed or injured with

mail order or foreign-made guns.

THE QUESTION BEFORE US AS A NATION is whether this interstate mail order traffic in murderous weapons should continue completely uncontrolled, or whether reasonable controls should be instituted.

Congress now has before it legislation which I believe will solve the mail order gun problem. The legislation contains the following provisions:

It prohibits the shipment in interstate commerce of guns to persons under 18. It bans mail order weapons to those who have been convicted of a felony. It tightens up licensing requirements for manufacturers and sellers of guns in a manner designed to discourage fly-by-night mail order houses. It requires one seeking to buy a gun through the mails to state in an affidavit his name, address, age, whether he has a crim-

inal record and whether the purchase would be contrary to local or state law. The seller must send a copy of this statement to the law enforcement officer of the locality in which the applicant resides; upon receiving a return receipt, the dealer may then lawfully deliver the firearm.

WE ARE NOT LIVING IN THE DAYS OF pioneers. We are not required to protect our homes from Redcoats or Indians or from wild beasts. We are now a highly complex nation of 188 million people.

This legislation has the support of the administration. It has been approved by the Department of Justice, Treasury, Commerce and State. It has the support of the National Rifle Association. It has the support of the gun industry. It has the support of law enforcement officials all over the country.